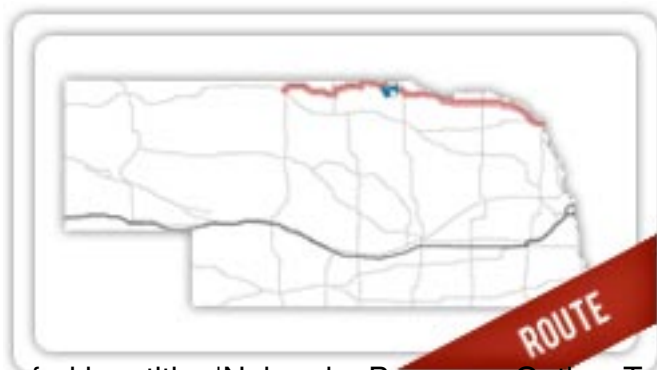


As the name suggests, many outlaws frequented these parts in the days of the Old West. Legend even has it that this area was once a regular hideout for Jesse James and his gang. Today, you can view the region's colorful past at a variety of museums, military forts, and historic sites along the 231 miles from near South Sioux City to Valentine.

Inhabitants during that time also included the Ponca and Santee American Indian tribes. Take in their rich cultural heritage within the communities along the byway and at attractions such as the [Ponca Earthlodge](#) .

When you're ready to head outdoors, you won't be disappointed. Explore the natural beauty along the trails of the area state parks, and view amazing wildlife in their natural habitats. Hit the waters of one of the state's largest lakes, or perhaps spend the afternoon learning the ropes at a local farm. The [Niobrara National Scenic River](#) also offers acclaimed canoeing and tubing opportunities.

THE ROUTE: A 231-mile jaunt from South Sioux City to Valentine on Nebraska Highway 12.



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